

Whereas, the effect of a state, like Illinois, taking one or more of those difficult alternatives may be to worsen the effects of the recession in that state because of higher unemployment, increased state costs of health care for the uninsured, increased numbers of foreclosures, increased state expenditures for unemployment insurance, and lower state tax revenues due to reduced economic activity; and

Whereas, the federal government has the resources and the ability to assist states with budget deficits during this difficult time so that the rate of unemployment can be reduced, or at least not increased, and so that educational and social service programs can be continued at current levels; and

Whereas, the state budget deficits could be eliminated if Congress passed new legislation, with reasonable repayment requirements, to provide financial assistance to the states with budget deficits; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-sixth General Assembly of the State of Illinois, That we urge Congress to pass legislation that would provide financial assistance to those states with budget deficits in order that the length and depth of the recession will not be worsened due to the limited resources and difficult alternatives presently confronting many states; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to President Barack Obama, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the United States Senate, and each member of the Illinois congressional delegation.

POM-129. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Louisiana urging the President of the United States, Congress, and the Federal Communications Commission to refrain from regulating Internet broadband services as common carrier services under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 117

To memorialize the president of the United States, the United States Congress, and the Federal Communications Commission to refrain from regulating Internet broadband services as common carrier services under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934.

Whereas, due in large part to the unregulated efforts of private enterprise over the past twenty-five years, the development of the Internet has dramatically transformed the way Louisiana citizens work, live, and learn; and

Whereas, the deployment of efficient, fast, and reliable broadband networks throughout the state has created thousands of jobs and many benefits for local economies; and

Whereas, in order to encourage the growth and development of the Internet, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) historically has refrained from regulating broadband Internet services as common carrier services under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934; and

Whereas, as a result, the United States has been at the forefront of technological, business, and social innovation on the Internet; and

Whereas, on May 6, 2010, the chairman of the FCC announced a policy to reclassify broadband Internet services as common carrier services so that they can be more tightly regulated, with a proposal to forebear from imposing certain common carrier obligations on broadband Internet providers; and

Whereas, using antiquated provisions of Title II of the Communications Act of 1934 to regulate the Internet will slow investment in Louisiana's Internet broadband infrastruc-

ture and jeopardize future job growth. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the president of the United States, the United States Congress, and the Federal Communications Commission to refrain from regulating Internet broadband services as common carrier services under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the United States, to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation, and to the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission.

POM-130. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging Congress to support expansion and use of domestic natural gas reserves and alternative energies to reduce our reliance on imported oil by supporting H.R. 1835 and S. 1408; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8

To memorialize the United States Congress to support expansion and use of domestic natural gas and alternative energies, and to urge agencies to operate vehicles using compressed natural gas.

Whereas, the United States imports more than sixty-five percent of its petroleum, two-thirds of which is used in the form of gasoline and diesel fuel to power vehicles; and

Whereas, a large percentage of worldwide petroleum reserves are located in politically volatile countries, making the United States vulnerable to supply disruptions; and

Whereas, the United States has an abundance of natural gas; and

Whereas, compressed natural gas provides safe, clean, reliable, efficient, and secure energy, and is the alternative fuel most used today for transportation in the United States, with more than two hundred thousand buses, taxis, delivery vehicles, and other fleet vehicles across the nation using compressed natural gas daily; and

Whereas, the United States Department of Energy indicates that compressed natural gas can be used as a replacement for gasoline in light-duty vehicles and as a replacement for diesel in heavy-duty vehicles; and

Whereas, vehicles powered by compressed natural gas discharge far fewer harmful emissions than vehicles powered by gasoline or diesel fuel; and

Whereas, studies indicate that maintenance costs for vehicles powered by compressed natural gas are lower than for vehicles powered by gasoline or diesel fuel; and

Whereas, the federal government currently provides, and is expected to increase, incentives for use of alternative fuels and, at the current price of various fuels, any additional costs to purchase vehicles to run on compressed natural gas would be quickly recouped; and

Whereas, in 2009, the United States imported four billion, three hundred and fifty million barrels of oil, spending roughly two hundred and sixty-five million dollars; and

Whereas, eighty-five million barrels of oil were produced daily around the world; and

Whereas, twenty-one million barrels of oil are used daily in the United States; and

Whereas, world oil production has been declining since 2005; and

Whereas, roughly twenty percent of every barrel of oil imported into the United States is used to fuel the transport of goods around the country by road. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the United States Congress to

support expansion and use of domestic natural gas reserves and alternative energies to reduce our reliance on imported oil by supporting H.R. 1835 and S. 1408, which are under consideration by the United States Congress. Be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana urges state and federal agencies to purchase, when possible, vehicles that can be converted to run on compressed natural gas, when it is available. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. KOHL, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 3606. A bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-221).

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*Coast Guard nominations of Rear Adm. (lh) Sandra L. Stosz, to be Rear Admiral Lower Half.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 3592. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Commerce Drive in Tyrone, Georgia, as the "First Lieutenant Robert Wilson Collins Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. JOHANNES:

S. 3593. A bill to require the Federal Government to pay the costs incurred by a State or local government in defending a State or local immigration law that survives a constitutional challenge by the Federal Government in Federal court; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 3594. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to mitigate the economic impact of the transition to sustainable fisheries on fishing communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 3595. A bill to strengthen student achievement and graduation rates and prepare young people for college, careers, and